

Remarks

The Examiner noted that claims 2-5, and 7-27 would be allowable if written in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. In response, the sole additional limitation of "at least three layers" referred to in claim 2 has been added into claim 1 by amendment and claim 2 is canceled. Correspondingly, claims 6-7, 11, 15, 19, 23, and 27 are canceled herein. As a result, Applicants submit that pending claims 1, 3-5, 8-10, 12-14, 16-18, 20-22, and 24-26 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 12 has been amended to correct a scrivener's error wherein the word "one" had inadvertently been omitted from the phrase "at least one wetting agent."

Method claims 34-38 have been added. In keeping with the Examiner's comments regarding allowable subject matter, these claims include all limitations of amended claim 1. As these method claims are directed to method for making the product as defined in allowed claim 1, these claims must also be allowable under *In re Ochiai*. Support for the new claims is found in at least paragraphs [011]-[0115] of the specification.

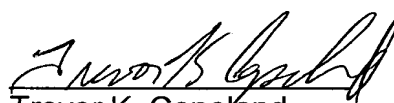
None of the claim amendments described above adds new material.

Conclusion

For at least the reasons described above, Applicants believe that currently pending claims 1, 3-5, 8-10, 12-14, 16-18, 20-22, 24-26, and 34-38 are patentable.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner grant early allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants via telephone if such communication would expedite the prosecution this application.

Respectfully tendered,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor K. Copeland", written over a horizontal line.

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